SERVING THE PUBLIC
Since 1929, Charlotte has operated under a Council-Manager form of government that divides responsibilities between elected officials and an appointed City Manager.

Citizens elect the Mayor and 11 Council members every two years. The Mayor and four Council members are elected at-large by a citywide vote; seven Council members are elected from districts by voters who reside in each district. (See map inside)

The Mayor and City Council are the “board of directors” of this municipal corporation. As such, they set policy, approve the financing of all City operations and enact ordinances, resolutions and orders. Their responsibilities also include appointing the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk and members of various boards and commissions.

The City Manager, functioning as the chief operating officer, administers the policy and decisions made by City Council and oversees the day-to-day operations of City government.

It is the City Manager’s responsibility to ensure that all City services are delivered in an efficient and cost-effective manner, and to provide vision and leadership to the City organization.

FOCUSING ON COMMUNITY NEEDS
City Council has adopted these focus areas to meet community needs:

Economic Development & Global Competitiveness
Committee Charge: Charlotte will be the most prosperous and livable city for all citizens through quality economic development. Provides a customer-oriented local government approach that supports development of an educated and trained workforce; promotes partnerships to aid local economic growth; retains and attracts quality businesses and contributes to the economy.

Transportation & Planning
Committee Charge: Charlotte will be the premier city in the country for integrating land use and transportation choices. Strives to provide a transportation network—including roads, mass transit and pedestrian and bicycle connections—that encourages people and businesses to live, work and locate within Charlotte.

Community Safety
Committee Charge: Charlotte will be one of America’s safest communities. Focuses on several initiatives to decrease crime through enforcement and prevention strategies that target specific crime categories or offenders as well as reduce the incidence of property crime and vehicle crashes.

Housing & Neighborhood Development
Committee Charge: Creating and sustaining communities of choice for living, working, and recreation. Provides comprehensive initiatives designed to foster economic development and improve quality of life issues in Charlotte’s older, urban neighborhoods and business areas.

Environment
Committee Charge: Charlotte will become a national leader in environmental sustainability, preserving our natural resources while balancing growth with sound fiscal policy. Addresses City policies for air and water quality, land preservation and energy and resource conservation to protect our resources and better manage growth.

More Focus Area information available at FocusAreas.CharlotteNC.gov.

MANAGING OUR CITY
Ron Carlee became the City of Charlotte’s 11th City Manager in April 2013. Prior to joining the City, Carlee was chief operating officer/executive in residence of ICMA. Over the course of his career, Carlee has served more than 30 years in local government, holding a number of diverse, senior executive positions, including manager of Arlington County, Virginia as well as director of Parks and Recreation and the director of the Department of Human Services. He has also served as an adjunct professor at The George Washington University. Carlee is originally from Birmingham, Alabama, beginning his career in local government as assistant to the Mayor. He earned a doctorate in public administration from The George Mason University; a master’s in urban studies from the University of Alabama; and a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of Montevallo, Alabama.
Patrick D. Cannon, Mayor, (704) 336 2241. mayor@charlottenc.gov. @CLTmayor
Cannon, a Democrat, was elected Mayor of Charlotte in 2013. Cannon was elected to District 3 Council seat in 1993 and in 2001 was elected to citywide office as an At-Large member of City Council, and served as Mayor Pro-Tem during four of those terms. Cannon received his bachelor's degree in communications from North Carolina A & T State University in Greensboro. He is a small business owner, operating and managing a parking management firm he founded in 1998. Mayor Cannon is also a managing partner for a business development and reduced energy lighting distribution firm.

Michael D. Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem, (704) 509-6141. barnesforcharlotte@gmail.com
Barnes, a Democrat, is serving his fifth term on City Council. For four terms, he served as Council member representing District 4 and in 2013 was elected At-Large and chosen to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. During his time on Council, Barnes has served as chair of the Budget Committee and vice chair of the Transportation and Planning Committee. Barnes received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his law degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law. He is currently the managing member of Barnes Law Office, PLLC.

Claire Green-Fallon, At-Large, (704) 336-6105. cfallon@charlottenc.gov
Fallon, a Democrat, is an At-Large representative on Charlotte City Council. She was elected in 2011 and is serving her second term. Fallon serves on the board of the Housing Trust and was a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance, the Mixed Income Housing Coalition of Mecklenburg County, and Committee of 21 for Charlotte-Mecklenburg roads and infrastructure. Fallon graduated from the New York School of Interior Design and attended Queens College New York and New York University.

David Howard, At-Large, 704-336-4099. info@davidhowardclt.com
Howard, a Democrat, was elected in 2009 and is serving his third term on Council. Howard is the Council Representative for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Development Corporation and the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPD). He has been Vice President of Special Projects and Community Affairs of The Housing Partnership since 1997. Howard is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and holds a bachelor's degree in sociology.

Vi Alexander Lyles, At-Large, (704) 336-3431. vlyles@charlottenc.gov
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Patsy Kinsey, District 1, 704-336-3432. pkinsey@charlottenc.gov
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Edmund H. Driggs, District 7, (704) 432-7077. ed@eddriggs.com
Driggs, a Republican, was elected in 2013 and is serving his first term on City Council. During his career at major financial institutions, Driggs specialized in arranging financing and securities offerings for corporate clients and advising them on strategic transactions. Driggs has served on the board of Communities in Schools as well as on the President’s Council at Central Piedmont Community College. Driggs holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from Princeton University.

LaWana Mayfield, District 3, 704-336-3435.
Mayfield, a Democrat, represents District 3 and is currently serving her second term. She has chaired the Youth and Gang Violence subcommittee of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee and served as a steering committee member with the Mecklenburg Political Action Committee. Mayfield has also served on the Board of Governors and as National Female Diversity Co-Chair for the Human Rights Campaign and as a Client Casework Supervisor of Disaster Services with the Carolinas Chapter of the American Red Cross.

John Autry, District 5, (704) 336-2777. jautry@charlottenc.gov
Autry, a Democrat, represents District 5 on Charlotte City Council and is serving his second term on Council. Autry is a member of the executive committee of the North Carolina Democratic Party and elected to two terms on the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Autry attended college in California and is currently chief technology officer and partner at W.A.R.N., LLC.

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Services are available online at http://311.charmeck.org. Residents can call for non-emergency customer service.

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Staff Resource: Ann Wall

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Staff Resource: Hyong Yi

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Updated February 2014
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**Members:** Alvin Austin, Claire Fallon, LaWana Mayfield  
**Staff Resource:** Ron Kimble

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**Housing & Neighborhood Development (HAND)**
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**Staff Resource:** Randy Harrington

**Governance & Accountability**
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Updated January 2014